

LEPANTO

4-EVER



This is issue #53 (97.04, June/July 97) of *Lepanto 4-ever* which is currently published about 5-weekly by Per Ö Westling. The editorial address is Östanvägen 10, S-61135 Nyköping, Sweden. Phone either 0155-247273 (work), 0155-215426 (home) or 070-7753106 (with answering machine). E-mail is: L4E@algonet.se

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Freebies (for a published article, used standby orders and/or wins in some games) are worth at least SEK 16 (£1.4) to your subscription account or to cover game fees if you are a trader.

The best way to pay within Sweden is to send cash, or use my "PG" which is 630912-5513

Waiting lists:

If no details appear by a list these can be found in a previous issue. Underlined names: preference list on file.

Open for anyone

1. Rocky II (By Popular Demand): 1s running. Anyone can join at any time.
2. Metropolis (Fictionary Dictionary): 1s

running. Anyone can join at any time.

3. Black British Press Winter 1900 Real Ghost Diplomacy [GM PW]: Another game of this variant, or if you prefer any other version let me know. Waiting: Genghis Khan + 1 player without pseudonym nor preference list.
4. Standard Diplomacy [GM PW]: Joost Staffhorst, Leif Kjetil Tviberg.
5. E-mail Diplomacy [GM PW]: Johan "Ubbe" Urbanyik
6. Railway Rivals [GM PW]:

I have decided to start one game on the Austrian map (3-4 players) and another on the Swiss map (3-4 players here as well). New players are very welcome — just ask for the rules if you need them.

Waiting: Mark Stretch [both], Michael Pargman, Leif Kjetil Tviberg, Brad Martin [both], Berry Renken [both], Christian Bien [any one]. Game start might be included separately, or not.

7. Beginner's Railway Rivals [GM PW]: As it seems it is more or less the same players all the time I will try to run a game for people that have never played RR before. We will use a simple map and no fancy rules. Let me know if you need the rules. Waiting: Pitt Crandlemire.
8. History of the World [GM PW]: PBM Rules appear in #45. Standbys: Pitt Crandlemire. Another game based on Gihan's new rules: Gihan Bandaranaike, Pitt?, Ward Narhi.
9. Civilization: Brad Martin, Nicklas

Deadline for #54 is Thursday 14 August 1997.

Hjalmarsson, Ola Hansson, Gihan Bandaranaike. Standby: Pitt Crandlemire. PBM rules appear in #43.

10. **Faith & Sword** [GM PW]: Waiting for a new game: None!

11 **Gops**: Rules in #50. 3-5 players. Waiting: (Gihan Bandaranaike).

12. **Capitalist Dip** [GM PW]. A combination of Bourse and Gunboat. Rules appeared in #45 and can be found on L4E's web pages. Just ask if you need them. *Send in a pseudonym to add to the waiting list.* Needs at least 5 players, but can take any number.

One player on the list. Needs a pseudonym.

11. **The Banquette of Borgia** [GM PW?]. Rules appear in #51. Waiting (name supplied underlined): John Robillard, Brad Martin, Pitt Crandlemire, Ward Narhi, Leif Kjetil Tviberg, Anders Færden, Lars Berglund.

12. **Energy** [GM Björn W]. Waiting list for this game (and others Björn run) should appear in the subzeen in the future.

13. **Eleusis** [GM Björn W]. Waiting: (Gihan Bandaranaike).

14. **Dip Royale** [GM PW?]. Should I give this a try? Waiting: Leif Kjetil.

Other games: Just name what you want to play (or what you want to GM) and I will consider it.



Withering bytes

Who are me to complain about the Royal Mail. I did post #52 around May 14th (Wednesday). When I got back home on the first working day after the holiday (at May 20th) I had already received orders from Mark Stretch!

Gihan Bandaranaike's smashing new zeen *Carpe Diem* had a successful but short career. After just one issue it folded, although CD might appear again eventually. The folding was prompted by Gihan losing his job for copying the zeen at work, or rather what he was gonna write in #2.

Gihan did loose his Internet connection with the work, but if he still had it I think the following would be a favorite of his: You can now "slap a spice girl" in a brilliant Web game. It is a very simple one, even Spice girls simple. Like in those old moles games you have a number of holes in which heads pop up while one of Spices' hits are playing. Your mission is to bonk on as many heads as possible during one minute! (Each time you hit you hear a "zigzagah" sound.) Scoring one point per hit you can also score a bonus 10 for the Margaret Thatcher heads that appear from time to time.

I did myself get a "sterling effort" grade, for 107 spice girls in one minute on my third attempt.

To start the game, go to:

<http://194.112.40.5/Urban75/spice.html>

(It is a shockwave application but that tool can be downloaded if needed.)

But Gihan did not drop out of the hobby due to this set back; quite the opposite as he returned as a subzeen to Vick Hall's *A Little Original Sim*¹. ALOS is one of the top zeens in UK and the inclusion of Gihan's subzeen strengthened it even more. Vick is also known for his inventions. For some months a Collectable Card Game with people in the hobby appearing on the card has been running. Your mission was to put together an excellent zeen by collecting Hobby cards (using trade or whatever means a Dip-player can use...). Vick is also known as the slug-zeen, as several hobby personalities appear as characteristical slugs in small cartoons.

Another zeen that did a fold, although not as surprising, was the long-running *Rambling WAY* by Andy York². But this actually was an opportunity for L4E as I did convince Andy to write a column for this zeen. The first incarnation of *WAYwords* appear later this issue.

I did mention *CD* and *ALOS* above. Of course I cannot do that without also mentioning the third zeen of that triumvirate: *The Freaky*

¹ Vick Hall lives at 115a Offord Road, Islington, London N1, England.

² Andy's address appear in the player roster.

Fungus by Toby Harris³. I did write about TFF last issue so I would not normally write about it so soon, but the latest issue impressed me so much that I just had to. Besides 40 pages of chat, articles, letters and (of course) a few Diplomacy games, the zeen also included a 12 page addition featuring a Manorcon Team Preview. This preview featured reviews of most of the players that will attend and also in which teams they would play in, also giving an estimated total skill for each team. Of course, with the foreign teams (France and Sweden probably) still not formed their scores would have to be rough estimates but the British (well, some with foreign inclusions) seemed right on. An excellent piece. Personally I regard the ManorCon team tournament as one of the major events of the Diplomacy hobby in the world. I hope that we manage to set up a good enough Swedish team to compete with the other top teams. Alas Team Sweden (or Team Scandinavia if we get Norwegian member[s]) won't be as good as in 1994, but we might get close.

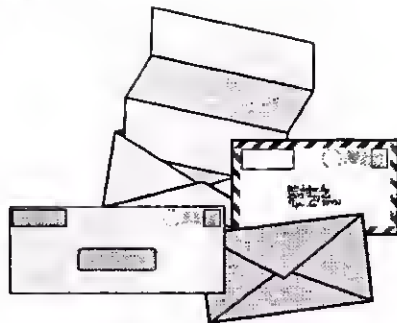
I myself just booked the flight to Manorcon today, leaving on the morning of 16 July from Nyköping airport (Skavsta), staying two days in London, heading for Birmingham until Monday. The return flight leaves 7.15 am from Stanstead Tuesday morning so that will be quite a feat to catch that plane...

If you want to play more Railway Rivals, there is the RR only zeen *XXI*, published by Christian Bien⁴. *XXI* is a very German (i.e. warehouse type, with little chat) although this is international because of its bilingual approach (English-German). A very nice looking zeen which also can be viewed at the web⁵. The zeen has the subtitle "German's big Railway-Rivals-pbm-Zine" [sic] which it lives up to as it runs 23 games of RR in the latest issue (several of them run by external GMs, e.g. David Watts himself).

³ Toby Harris, 47 Kingfisher Court, Bridge Road, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 9HN, England. Cost £1 per issue (including post).

⁴ Christian Bien, Im Winkel 27 a, D-58579 Schalksmühle, Germany (bien@cwv.de)

⁵ <http://home.t-online.de/home/christian.bien/xxi.htm>



Käre Per

Carpe Diem – Not!

Gihan Bandaranaike [15 May]: "I really wanted this letter to get to you before you went off to Lund but I have been busy. Anyway, I hope you enjoyed Lund. Toby certainly did."

((I went to LinCon instead, one week later. As I understand it SydCon is not a very well-organized convention, with only the Diplomacy tournament being of any quality.))

"I also hope you explained to anyone (Leif? Christian?) who was expecting me to come over with Toby that my recent job loss meant it would have been mad of me to go to Sweden. I am worried that Toby would've simply used it as an excuse to slag me off as totally unreliable when, the truth be told, I really wanted to go. I could have afforded it but thought it better not to spend in case this period of unemployment lasts longer than I would like."

((At least Leif got the message when I met him the week after at LinCon.))

"For the first time ever, I'll admit that I was jealous of Toby. Still, he did respectably (according to him). Toby tells me Leif on – many congrats to Leif (although I'm not surprised as I bet Toby that Leif or Björn v K would win it – although Toby thought he'd win it, of course."

((Otherwise he would have gone, would he? Besides the ones you mentioned I would have given Kalle Siengård and Henrik Andersson good chance of winning. Those two and Leif did not play at WDC (as Henrik and Leif was organizers and Kalle for some reason did not show up.))

"You may be surprised at the next ALOS."

((I was, but that is often the case with ALOS.))

"I see you are using HOTW II rules – be wary of allowing conditionals as it can be a nightmare. One option is the "no conditionals" variant (see page 28 of CD #1)."

((I will let the HOTW game run to completion before deciding on the rules for the second game [if any].))

"Now onto your visit to UK.

"The London Hobbymeet is on the third Wednesday of each month – mainly socialising although a few silly games are played."

((If my calculations are correct the Wednesday before ManorCon will be the hobbymeet for July. I expect to arrive at Stanstead around noon and take a train arriving at Liverpool station sometime around 1 or 2 PM. I will pop in to the hohhy meet sometime around 6 PM.

For anyone wondering where and when it is it will take place at the Royal George public house (just outside Euston Station) from around 6 PM onwards. I expect the rest of the Swedes that arrive early to show up there as well.))

"I have finally got Vick, Toby and Toby's brother Adam interested in Magic. ((Ops.)) Vick now even goes to the Guild of Melee and Magic to play Magic (remember where we played each other using Ian's decks?) ((Yes.)) This Magic club convenes Tuesday evenings. There is always a booster draft competition open to anyone. There is also a Type 2 tournament (Mox/Lotus prize) every first Saturday of the month and a tournament every last Saturday of the month (although what type varies, usually Type 1.5). Being London, there are lots of ad hoc tournaments which are only advertised a month ahead at most. Of course, as the UK plays very little Type I, any serious Magic traders can buy Type I cards very cheaply over here. Whilst popular Type II cards, like Kjeldoran Outposts, are more valuable here."

((So now we know what Inge Kjol is doing in London... Anyone interested to attend the

Guild during the Tuesday before or after the convention can contact Gihan to get the address. Myself, I have tried to quit Magic for a few years now. Even did so before I visited London as mentioned above, but have not managed to sell of my cards yet.))

"I mention this as there seems to be a lot of Magic and Dip players (Leif and you are two I know) and this may influence the dates for you visiting the UK for ManorCon. Toby tells me there will be quite a few this year."

((Two of the players of the Swedish WDC 94 team is now playing Magic more or less professionally. So there seem to be room for deviousness in both Diplomacy and Magic...))

"As for accommodation, Toby and I were planning to move in together in Camden for the start of July and I really would like to (as we get on so well) – but, unless I find a good job quickly, this looks highly unlikely. Anyway, anyone willing to "rough it" (sleep on spare mattresses on the floor) can stay over at my current place. Only 4 mattresses so any more would have to sleep in sleeping bags."

"Also I have a spare tiny bedroom (where James Hardy slept when he stayed over) which will be empty and available if I'm still at my current place. I cannot make any promises if I've moved in with Toby (as Toby will have Elin staying for the summer, I think).

((If there is room commit me in for the nights between 16-17 July and 17-18 July. After the convention I will probably travel directly to Stanstead.

When I traveled back from ManorCon in 1990 I reached the check in desk just half an hour before the plane were to take off, so I was forced to take the next plane. Alas, the plan I had plan to take was the last plane for the night so I had to spend the night at Heathrow airport, without any money. But I was lucky to have brought a sleeping bag. Many people staying over night at the airport had to sleep on the floor.))

"As for shows, give me a preference list of shows (Miss Saigon should not be a problem) and dates (avoid Fridays/Saturdays, of course) and whether you're desperate enough to see a matinee as well as how many tickets you want. I will buy them directly from the theatre and when I see you in London, you can pay me back."

((Book me in for Miss Saigon at Thursday night [17 July], one ticket. I hope the Swede Peter Jöback is still singing in the lead role. He played an excellent role in the musical Ulrens Andersson based on the works of Willhem Moberg.))

((Much talk about Toby above, so let's see what Toby himself has to say:))

Toby Harris [28 May]: 'Just got the zine today; first time I've seen it for several years !!! You seem to have quite a few international readers (I'm quite jealous !) including the UK's very own Stretchy, Snotty and Stumpy ! (Mark, James and Vick for the less educated)."

((As more than half of the readers are non-Swedes, that makes L4E more international than Fungus...))

"So what is all this crap about me being 'off-form'. If the truth be known, for the last few years, every UK con I go to there has been a consortium of 'Stumpy-ites' who have tried to take me out at the first opportunity to satisfy their own evil lusts for fame ! Unfortunately, none of your 'famed' UK readers have won a single Manorcon or UK NDC between them ! They are just sooo jel it's untrue ! Vick got close once with a 3rd place at Manorcon '92 and even went on to give me an outright win in the same year (aided and abetted by the delectable Duch 'Coby', God did he have a crush on her !) but this was a feeble effort on his part, as usual."

((Is it very common for the Big Names to be overrun. If it happens too often they usually disappear from the tournament circus for some years.))

"Ok, I'm just bitching. Onto the zine.

"Great effort; loved the international element and has me tempted to close all waiting lists and become a chat zine only, with the occasional Dip game."

((Might be a good idea. As you have quite a few French hobbyists your zeen can be a very good base for the European Tournament Hobby, i.e. the social part of it. Leave the dull stuff of discussion rules etc. to other zeens.))

"On the international front, have you the address of a couple of prolific Yanks? Larry is always good for a laugh (he's been to the UK a few times) and one or two others; seems my zine

could do with stretching further than just Europe."

((Some of the ones reading this zeen are active in other UK zeens so they might be interested to get your zeen. Of the ones not reading I would suggest David Hood [who will be hosting WDC 8 in Chapel Hill, USA in May 1998] and Jim Burgess [editor of TAP]. If you call David Yank I am sure you will get him going ☺))

Gihan Bandaranaike [5 June]: 'I agree with your comments about L4E's letercol. However, L4E is definitely the international Diplomacy zine. Its highly influential position in the international hobby has its price in that it is an obvious forum for discussing serious international hobby issues. Which makes it essential reading for anyone interested in the international hobby."

((With the low coverage in France [1-2 readers normally and non-existing in many other European countries with hobbies [Finland, Austria, Italy] I do not regard as completely successful when it comes to establishing an international forum.

Alas, the letter column of L4E has a tendency to wither away, without any material, and the serious stuff is hardly encouraging participation.))

"I must apologise for those who expected me at Lund. Going to Sweden immediately after loosing your job seemed unwise. GothCon was one of the best Cons I've been to and I will certainly return to Sweden. I confess I was insanely jealous of Toby going to Lund."

((GothCon was probably the best Swedish convention, so don't expect that quality of a convention in the future. But GothCon in the Easter of 1998 might still be a good choice, probably the best Swedish convention for foreigners to visit.))

"I would love to play Royale. I am currently devising my own rules for Blood Royale. Because I hate the GM rolling dice (and all my games designs avoid this), I got stuck trying to get round the Events (Karma points are spent for birth/death rolls) until I read Vick's great idea of using the deadline weekend lottery numbers for random Events! I expect he got the idea from an infamous Bingo Lotto sweatshirt... ((At last I get credit where credit is due.)) I have

yet to play Blood Royale but it looks great. Is it standard to role-play the game as well? (People look at me oddly when I suggest role-playing Modern Art but it's far more fun, with silly accents appropriate to your art gallery location etc.) Perhaps I should take my (assembled but unplayed) copy of Blood Royale to ManorCon."

((Role-playing is standard practice for the PBM of that type in Swedish zeens.

Blood Royale is a very good game, although it takes some time to play.))

Your brother has unusually good taste in music. 7 of his 10 albums I love. Have you taught him your dance routine in "Knocking on Heaven's Door" that you demonstrated at Dubliners? Five pint of Guinness and you think you're Rocky..."

((Actually it was five pint of Strongbow...

Some of the albums did surprise me, but I hope Björn will write more about music in his column. If I were to give a list of my own it would be: Spice Girls (ops wrong list)... Err, trying again:

- Claire Hamill: Voices
 - Alanis Morissette: Jagged Little Pill
 - Pink Floyd: Dark Side of the Moon
 - Kate Bush: Never for Ever
 - Lisa Nilsson: Himlen runt hörnet
 - Garbage: garbage
 - Portishead: Dummy
 - Hedningarna: Trä
 - No Doubt: Magic Kingdom
 - Maria McKee: You gotta sin to get saved
- (Especially the last title is something to live after.) Slight tilt for "new" music which can be explained that I didn't really start buying records until a few years ago.

BTW, I did get that Bingo-Lotto sweatshirt Malin liked so much from my brother.))

Have you played Avalon Hill's latest, Age of Renaissance? Alot like Civi but with luck. I liked it but it has apparently been slated by everyone. Another AH game I've been recommended is Treasure of Sierra Madre (or was it Leone?) - have you played it? Whatever

happened to the long awaited Tigris & Euphrates from the makers of El Grande?"

((I have not even played El Grande yet. My only chance to play games are at conventions due to the lack of players locally. I did almost get an Siedler overdose at LinCon so I hope to get some change when I get to England.))

((That should be enough from Gihan for today. Any more Brits out there? Snotty?))

James "Harry/Snotty" Hardy [27 May]: 'Read L4E - entertaining as ever. I heartily second your comments to Bruno about "keeping our sharpened daggers for the Dip board only". Even if they are Frenchies!"

((The 100 years war have been over for quite some time now.))

I like the way you leave everyone's typos in and make them obvious with "[sic]" after them. Must confess I've never heard of the movie Plane 9 From Outer Space. Must ask people on the Player Rooster if they have."

((Err... Spotted that, did you? I wonder if I will be named 'The Rooster'?))

'Have you got the GothCon Dip results? Please please send me them if you have! As I said previously I got the Hippy to check out the web site that had them, but they'd already been deleted!"

((I have them, and they should be sent to you officially real soon now. The complete results should also appear linked to the WDC 7 result page that should still be up, it was last time I checked. That is, they will appear as soon as I have HTML:ed them...))

'Gosh a Dip variant based on Blood Royale! I've just been roped into playing this postally by Specky due to a dropout. I really like the game face to face but not too sure about postally. I enjoy making up the names and drawing their heraldry on the character sheets. Usually something you couldn't show your mum..."

((Now we all wonder do you show SNOT to your mum?))

BEFORE THERE WAS MADELEINE AND MARGARET, THERE WAS MARGARETE II

by Larry Peery

Most young Dippers think women Dippers began with Madeleine Albright, or perhaps Margaret Thatcher. Not so. Consider the example of Margrete I, the namesake of the current Queen of Denmark.

I'm sure I read about the Union of Kalmar in school and it must have come up in my Scandinavian History class, but the name of Queen Margrete I rang no bells with me when I stopped by the Danish Nationalmuseet in Copenhagen last April 1st. The place was packed with people, unlike most of the other museums I had been in that day. I asked the admission's clerk why there were so many people in the place. He gave me a strange look and said that "Today is the last day of the Queen Margrete I exhibit, and everybody wants to see it before it leaves."

Oh.

I discovered you had to make an appointment for a set time to enter the exhibit and you were only given two hours to see it. I told him I wanted to go in now. So he made the appointment for "now." Strange system.

Up a flight of stairs and through some glass doors and into a large, very dark hall filled with lots of people milling around aimlessly, and collections of people standing around brightly lit glass exhibit cases or peering at dimly lit and much too small info pieces mounted on the walls. There seemed to be a lot of school children, but more than anything else I noticed the number of young and middle-aged professional looking women. They all looked very intense, very serious, and were dressed to kill. Apparently Margrete I is a role model for younger women on the rise in Denmark.

I'm sure all you good Scandinavian Dippers know all about Margrete, but just in case any of you are a bit rusty on your history, here's a few salient facts.

Six hundred years ago, in 1397, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Iceland and Greenland were brought together in a union that

was to last more than 125 years. Even Bro and ABBA couldn't do that.

Commemorative events were planned this year at Kalmar Castle on Sweden's east coast, where the Union of 1397 was hammered out. Among the most interesting of these is a special exhibit on the life of Queen Margrete I — "The Regent of the North" — who was the pivotal figure in creating the union.

The exhibit's organizer, Denmark's National Museum, calls Margrete "possibly the most significant woman of the Middle Ages." (I wonder what Eleanor of Aquitaine would have said about that?) The exhibit moved from Copenhagen, where it opened in conjunction with Queen Margrete II's 25th jubilee year, to Kalmar Castle where it will be until July 20. Then it goes to Norway and Finland.

If you're a "royals watcher" you will want to be in Kalmar on 14 - 15 June when the kings, queens and presidents of Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland and Iceland will gather to declare the city Capital of the North for 1997. That's "capital" as in all the money they expect the event to bring in.

If you missed the exhibit in Copenhagen, take the time and make the effort to see it at one of its other stops. Here's an idea of what to expect.

Background: On 17 June 1397, the young Erik of Pomerania was crowned monarch of the three Nordic kingdoms. The driving force behind the solemn ceremony in Kalmar was not Erik himself but his stepmother, Margrete I. The union was her creation and represented the culmination of her conscious efforts to unite the Nordic countries. Margrete I was the actual ruler of the union until her death in 1412. The Union of Kalmar lasted intermittently until 1521, and for Norway and Denmark until 1814.

The Exhibition: The starting point for the exhibition is the political event: the meeting in Kalmar in 1397. Here the political power games

in the Nordic region are related, and original documents from the Kalmar meeting are exhibited. (Alas, no copy of LP 4-ever #1.) This is followed by a presentation of the extensive Nordic region of the period 1319 – 1450. Marked contrasts dominated the period. The dreadful plague raged in the years before Margrete's birth, killing close to half the population. Yet in the midst of the horrors beauty flourished, and the exhibition shows examples of the meticulous and opulent worked gold of the period. One section is devoted to costumes and textiles, and includes the beautiful dress which once stood beside Margrete's grave in Roskilde Cathedral. (Actually, I swear there's a picture of Margaret Thatcher in a dress just like that one in the first volume of her Memoirs.) In 1659 the dress was seized by Swedish soldiers, and this is the first time since then that permission has been given for it to leave its place in Uppsala Cathedral. (I wonder if they got Björn's permission first?) The dress is surrounded by, amongst other things, a large collection of everyday clothing, which was worn by the Nordic settlers in Greenland. (Note the absence of Nike or Reboks.)

"The treasures of the church are revealed in a wide selection of silver wear, relics and pilgrim's tokens. The exhibition also tells of the Swedish saint, Birgitta of Vadstena, whose religious visions had a considerable influence on both the period and Margrete I." (The Swedish equivalent to Joan of Arc, I suppose, only this Queen didn't need to be pushed.)

Among the things to watch for are a reproduction of Margrete's sarcophagus (Let's see, Madeleine would just fit into that.), the Declaration of Her Regency (It has either 13 or 14 seals attached. If you can identify whose seals they are, you'll win a prize! Send your answers to me, Larry Peery, at peery@ix.netcom.com by 1 September, 1997), the treasures from the Linköping Cathedral (No wonder it looked so dark and depressing, all of its gold treasures were in Copenhagen.), a Norwegian drinking horn with the famed golden "double BB" carved into it, a lovely carved figure of the Madonna from Nystad holding a very young Leif Bergman, and a chainmail hood with Johannes Nesser's cranium inside. Lovely items, one and all.

The whole point of the exhibit is to prove, and it does need proving, that there were people of culture and attainment in Northern Europe as well as in areas whose history is better known. The amazing thing is how similar these people were to their cousins in England, France, the Lowlands, Germany, and even in the Mediterranean areas. The story of the struggle between the few of the State (which did not even exist yet) and the few of the Church (which was also in the process of establishing itself as an all powerful institution) for the many (all the poor slobbs that actually worked for a living) is a universal one.

But rarely has it been told so beautifully. See it, this is one of those once in a lifetime gatherings of treasures from many places that won't happen again. Per Westling will see to that!

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Kalmarunionen – The Union of Nordic Countries 600 years ago

by Janne Gustafsson (translated by Per Westling)

An iron lady in 14th century make enters the political arena and succeeds with the almost impossible, to unite the Nordic countries in the Kalmarunionen (the Union of Kalmar). Her name is Queen Margareta.

The summer of 1397, a summer when the men of the Church and royalties from near and far are gathered in Kalmar. In a strange time the will be witnessing to a strange event.

The strange thing is that Erik of Pomerania shall be crowned as the King of Sweden, Norway and Denmark. But it will not be Erik that will rule the following years. That is done instead by Queen Margareta.

Here introductory letter to Erik of Pomerania, dated seven years after the coronation, shows who is really making the decisions. Marageta's advice to the young King

"Be kind and accommodating, but avoid any concrete promises."

Today 600 years afterwards Queen Margareta is seen as a tactical and shrewd politician. The special thing is that she gets a prominent role in a time completely dominated by men. But she is herself a very special woman. She has not lived any normal life.

Margareta, daughter of Valdemar Atterdag, was born in Denmark and is 10 years old married to the Swedish born King Håkon of Norway. Margareta is raised and educated in Norway by Märta, daughter of Birgitta the Holy.

But the life is far from a bed of roses. 1370 Margareta writes to King Håkon. She complains that the stores to be used to supply the court the upcoming winter is scarce.

— She is only 17 years old. It is interesting that she dares to write to her husband the King, says Odd Zschiedrich. He is the castle manager on the castle of Kalmar which this summer displays the large exhibit about Margareta.

More than 1000 items has been borrowed from museums and institutions in eight different countries. The exhibition also tells things about the mediaeval times, the time in which Margareta lived in.

The items has been valued to a quarter of a billion Swedish crowns and was moved into the castle guarded by police armed with automatic rifles. The exhibition started 1996 in Copenhagen and will move on to Tavastehus and Oslo.

This summer the Byteater (Village Theater) in Kalmar also performs "Margareta – a story of a King and her men". Six centuries after her death Margareta still fascinates the posterity.

— We know so little about here. She was a remarkable person. During a time in which Kings killed each other she stepped in and managed to create a lasting peace. She was sharp, clever and powerful, says Björn Samuelsson, director of the performance.

Margareta and Håkon got a son – Olav, whose future immediately was decided. When Margareta's father died the five year old Olav was appointed as successor and King of

Denmark. When Håkon died a few years later Håkon also took over the Norwegian crown.

But in 1387 Olav suddenly died in the stronghold of Falsterbohus on the Falsterbonäs in southern Skåne (Scania). And now Margareta was alone.

She was 34 years old and had lost both husband and son. But something urged her to continue, something got her to continue to fight, and she made history.

Margareta search for a successor and found one in Pomerania. There she found Bugislav, the son of her sister's daughter, which received the more Nordic sounding name of Erik. And Margareta ensured that Erik was accepted as King, first in Norway and later also in Sweden.

1389, the same year as Erik became King of Norway, the battle of Falköping was fought. In the parish of Åsle, the troops of Queen Margareta got into battle with the large army of Albrecht of Mecklenburg.

Albrecht of Mecklenburg might be seen as a symbol of the German influence in Sweden during the 14th century. German merchants was persons of power in cities like Stockholm and Visby.

The Swedish *Stormän* (Dukes) had been collecting support and received help from Albrecht of Mecklenburg to remove King Magnus Ericsson.

The Germans got a large influence in Sweden, their knights was installed in the castles and their Nobles got hold of Swedish provinces.

Friar Thorir's associate Andreas Lydekini in Vadstena described the ravaging of the Germans with the following words:

"Then the birds of prey settled down on the mountains tops, as the German tyrannized the country for many years."

In the end this was intolerable and the Stormän finally decided to get help from Margareta. The acknowledged her as Queen of Sweden and February 24 1389 the battle of Falköping occurred.

But before the battle at Falköping Albrecht did something foolish: He sent Margareta a large whetstone so what she could sharpen her needles

and scissors instead of rule. He also gave her the nickname "King Trouserless".

— That must have felt humiliating for here, says Angela Kovács who plays Margareta in the play.

But Margareta took a great revenge: after the battle Albrecht was forced to wear a jester's cap and was kept prison for six years in a castle in Skåne.

To remind Albrecht that he once had asked her to marry him, Margareta let him sleep for one night in her bed, with hands and feet tied...

But it would take a few more years before Kalmarunionen was created. Not until June 1397 is it time for the large coronation in S:t Nikolai Church in Kalmar. At least 67 Bishops and Stormän witness the coronation of Erik of Pomerania, among them bishop Johannes of Orkney islands.

His and the others name are preserved on the special coronation letter that is displayed during the Margareta Exhibition. It is an unique document with 67 different seals testifying that Erik of Pomerania was crowned as King the 17 June for the three kingdoms – Denmark, Sweden and Norway.

Preserved to posterity is also the so called Union Letter, which states that the three kingdoms shall live in piece under one King. But according to the letter each country should be rules according to its own legislation.

Kalmarunion becomes a vast empire, which included Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Iceland, Greenland, Faeroe, Shetland and Orkney.

The Union letter is written on normal paper and have only been issued by 17 persons, something that puzzle the historians.

— One explanation might be that it can be the result of a political pre-meeting. Maybe one planned to meet again, but for different reasons it never took place, says Odd Zschiedrich.

Another theory is that Queen Margareta had more fargoing plans for Kalmarunionen and simply rejected the text of the agreement. It did not suit her that each country should have its own legislation.

That is the picture of Margareta as a medieval Iron Maiden, a tactical and sharpened full-blooded politician. But she had other sides as well.

— One can regard Margareta as an Alva Myrdal who fought to keep together love, family life and politics, says stage manager Gunilla Pantzar, who has worked with Byteatern's setting of the play about Margareta.

She points out the Margareta willed large sums of money to women what had been violated during the cruel war

Margareta also donated money to be used during soul masses for all killed in the war, regardless if they had been fighting for her or been on the side of the enemy.

— After all she probably had a good heart. To me she appears as human, capable and clear thought, says Gunilla Pantzar.

Margareta also let her became a member of the Birgitta Order. The Christmas of 1403 she visited the monastery in Vadstena, according to Vadstena's memorial book from the same year.

'On the last day before her departure, she first gathered the sisters in front of here in the speaking room and then the brothers and kissed humbly all their hands in a confirmation of her sisterhood.

But a laybrother touched, according to his custom, her hand with his hand clothed in his cowl. That she did not want, and said:

— I shall not do like that; reach out with your hand bare and not clothed, as I have now become your sister."

Very little has be preserved about the Queen of the Union who is buried in Roskilde.

— How one regards Margareta depends on during which period of time in history you regard her from and who has described her, established Gunilla Pantzar.

✂

Euro Master of Diplomacy

by Pascal Montagna

((The following is a reprint of a letter sent to Roland Isaksson. It contains the ideas presented by Pascal et al, and has in other forms been published in some other zeeus, for example FREAKY FUNGUS. Over to Pascal:))

We haven't seen each other since WDC VI in Columbus. I expected to meet you at EDC in Belgium but you wasn't there and I was not able to make the travel to Gothenburg at the WDC VII's occasion.

Things are moving in Europe. Relationship between French and English hobbies has never been as good as now. Essentially thanks to Toby Harris whose zine the Freaky Fungus is read in France with a lot of interest (and in Sweden also).

In order to enlarge international relationships I would like to begin a correspondence with you and other Swedish players in order to promote European hobbies. More than ever Diplomacy has never been so international. So let's exchange ideas, discussions, and news.

The French hobby is under reconstruction and has never been as strong as today. With a double EDC and WDC champion in the person of Cyrill Sevin who is far from being a "newbie" as it was written in Per's zine by some angry Belgian players, our hobby has been growing internationally since 1994.

It is always a pleasure to meet Swedish players at conventions and I think that your hobby is, with French and English, one of the most active. That's why I believe it is important to maintain strong relations between each other.

I will be in MANORCON in July 97. Toby told me that lot of Swedes are traveling to Birmingham. I hope you will be part of them. It will be the occasion to discuss some international projects amongst them I present to you the EURO MASTER OF DIPLOMACY (EMOD) officially presented by Bruno Andre Giraudon and myself at the EDA HOBBY MEET IN BELGIUM. It has been discussed at this occasion and everybody found it a very good idea.

I will be very interested if you could diffuse this program in Sweden and ask your hobby to discuss it. Your opinion, what ever it is, is more than welcome.

-DEFINITION:

EMOD is a competition restricted to a number of players invited according to their last results and their European nationality according to the EDA status.

-TITLE:

The winner is sacred "Euro-Master of Diplomacy" or "Maitre Europeen de Diplomatie"

-AWARDS:

The winner will have his name marked on a special Cup he will keep since the next tournament. A little cup, a medal or a scroll could be kept permanently by the winner.

Best negotiator, strategic or tactician could be attributed by adding results of games played, the least counting 20%.

-ORGANISATION:

EMOD is organized by a chairman eventually helped by second hand or a local or national organisation. The convention can be organised as a solo event or taking part of a larger convention.

-RULES:

The rules are those edited by Descartes Editeur under Avalon Hill license.

-ABBREVIATIONS:

Abbreviations are those used on any official board under Avalon Hill license. Any misorders are non valid.

-NUMBER OF PLAYERS:

Players are 25. Amongst them one is directly qualified for the top board and 3 players play only the second game replacing those 3 players qualified in the first game.

-COMPETITION :

The philosophy of EMOD is based on competition between players. The winner of the top board wins the title. To take part of the top board one victory is needed in one of the qualificative round or being directly qualified.

There are two qualificative rounds. Each round is composed by 3 board. Each board is controlled by a referee which assumes the reading of the orders and resolves the moves. A player can although ask for the chairman if he contest a referee's decision.

The 3 winners of the first round become referees of the second round and the first round referees are allowed to play the second round.

At the end of the second round the 3 winners will join the 3 winners of the first round plus the directly qualified player in order to play the top board.

-SCDRING :

A score will be calculated according to the C-DIPLO French scoring system.

Only the 2 best boards will be counted. Only the winner and the different awards (negotiator, strategian and tactician) will be written on the EMOD gold book. As the EMOD philosophy is based on competition runner-ups will NEVER be granted anything.

-HEAD SERIES :

Every players will be granted a score according to the EDA system (and if it doesn't exist according to the earlier EDC results or his celebrity (!!!)). This score will be able to break any ties between players in case of draws, including top board. Then THE DRAW WILL NEVER EXIST on any EMOD game.

-GAME TIME :

Game time can be changed by the chairman BEFORE a round begins. But this time will never be less than 1906 and never exceed 1909. Players can although vote secretly and unanimously an anticipate end of the game. By this way they agree to leave the competition room in order to not interfere with other boards.

The chairman gives the negotiation time. This tempo MUST be obeyed imperatively.

-CHAIRMAN DECISIONS

The chairman can sanction a player who is too slow to write his orders if asked by a referee. The player has then 30 seconds to end his orders. If he doesn't so he MUST gives his orders or being declared non-valid orders.

A once sanctioned player has no 30 seconds delay further in the game. A player who gives up the game can come back later if he wants so. He, then, can't be replace. Writing orders must be secret. The referee can ask for players to change place in order to keep this secret.

During the negotiation phase no orders can be written. The referee keeps the orders sheet all thru this phase. Although players can use secondary sheets in order to write their orders with their allies during negotiation phase but those orders must be rewritten secretly on the official sheet during the order phase.

-PRACTICAL ORGANISATION

Players negotiate in a delimited space. Two or more players can ask for another not to take part of their negotiations.

Ideally the competition should take place on the evening and a complete day.

-PLAYERS SELECTION :

Directly Qualified Player (DQP) invitation should follow this order :

- 1) current Euro-Master
- 2) current EDC champion
- 3) current WDC champion (if European)

If none of those is available the previous years titles will be consider.

Other players :

The selection is made by country and determined by the chairman which must be careful not putting two same countries on the same board. EDA members of each countries make a proposal of players to invite according to their national or international awards. Double-nationality will always count as a representative EDA member (ex: a franco-portuguese will count as a French). For the first edition, we suggest the following selection:

England 4+; Sweden 3; France 4+; Norway 2; Belgium 2; Italy 1; Greece 1, Portugal 1, Austria

1*; Germany 1*; Spain 1*; Finland 1*; Switzerland 1*; Netherlands 1*.

* Celebrity and results of those country's player must be good to participate.

+ Those countries can add up to 6 player if little countries doesn't participate (completion order is following: France; Sweden; England one after the other)

The chairman is still responsible of invitations according to the selections given by any countries in order to keep the spirit of a high level competition of the best European players. The hosting player must be able to allow replacements players in case of a missing invited player.

-WHEN :

the first EMOD could take place between October 97 and October 98.

-LANGUAGE :

Non-English spoken players must be assisted by a translator.

BID FOR EMOD I :

Bruno Andre Giraudon and I propose a bid for EMOD 1 in Paris for the next diplomatic season (97/98).

One last thing. In order to know each other better I will send you a kind of "portrait" of the French hobby. How does it work, what are its problems, how many and what kind of

competitions are played, who are its personalities...

I will be very interested if you do the same work for your hobby. It could permit me to publish it in our zine to present your to French players.

Friendly yours

Pascal Montagna

PS: My postal address is:

Pascal Montagna

2 cite de la mairie 75018 Paris

France

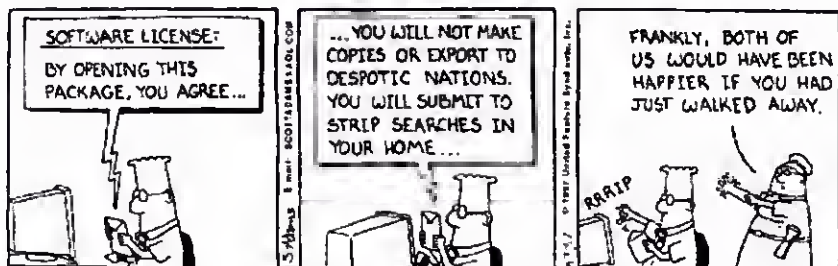
Tel: 42 52 22 52

If you or your friends want to come in Paris I can welcome you in my house with no problems.

((I have never played according to Descartes edition, but that should pose no greater problem for anyone wanting to become a EuroMaster.

My general impression of this suggestion is positive: I think it is a good idea to have more competitions if there is enough interest. One or two international competitions each year (EDC + WDC, possibly) might not be enough, but I would hate to see those loosing players to a competing event.

Anyway, I propose we all support this first event, and depending on the outcome and reactions to the event we can give or not give our support to any future events.))



WAYwords #23

by Andy York

Greetings!! This is the latest incarnation of a column that I wrote for Bob Hartwig's *Orphan Son* (nee WAY Out of It!) and, later, for Pete Gaughan's *Perelandra*. Per has graciously allowed me some space here to prattle on about things.

My first column is a reprint of the last one I wrote for Pete. The column drew quite a bit of response, and is still quite apt. In fact, with summer just upon us, it hits home to me and I hope it will to you.

For the future, I hope to look at science fiction, some science fact, general meandering writing and what-ever else grabs my fancy. I welcome all comments, both those sent directly to me and those I see in *Lepanto 4-Ever*. And, if you have something you'd like to have me touch on, just ask. I'll see what my dancing fingers on the keyboard can come up with!!

Recently a story I read set my mind wandering. In short, the theme was personal goals — and dreams. The kind of dreams that make childhood special; the future boundless and seemingly unending. The dreams we lose as we enter "the real world" and we age.

I can remember, as a youngster, looking forward to the exploration of summer vacations; the long (it seemed) weekends to read and adventure; the hours between school and bed to enjoy friendships. Unfortunately, I find I've lost some, nay most, of that enthusiasm and vigor.

Today, in my adult life and with adult responsibilities, the summer vacations are long past. They've been replaced by a hectic two weeks a year filled with yearly repairs, cleaning and chores with a short interlude to visit friends.

The weekends are spent maintaining the household, shopping for food, cleaning the car and other mindnumbing duties necessary to keep going. The evenings after work seem too short; and too often filled with pap television and not with dreams.

My friends, whom I played games with, ran through fields and dunked in pools, are now folks I grab a quick lunch with or spend ten minutes on

the phone "catching up" our lives once a month. There's no playful wrestling, climbing trees or spending the night in the backyard chatting and watching the sky.

When I was younger, I thought there were years upon decades to grow, expand and experience. Thus, I spent time just enjoying where I was, what I saw and daydreaming about random thoughts. There would be plenty of time for other things; and for those moments, I stopped and lived.

Now, I rarely think past the next weekend (short that it will be). Listing the things that need to be done; passing on to the next weekend what could be delayed. The dreams and aspirations of my youth have passed into distant memory; today I need to worry about what needs to be done today.

As a child I thought of what it would be like to be an astronaut, an architect, a scientist and a president. Today, I eagerly await the lottery drawing with my one ticket hoping that it will return my dreams to me.

But, I know that won't happen. I need to take control back over my life — returning my dreams and goals to me. I need to spend my evenings not watching mindless sitcoms and playing rote computer games; but in learning more about the world and improving myself. I need to start planning my weekend around experiences and personal growth. I need to spend my vacations exploring this world. I need to spend time playing with my friends and enjoying them and what they bring to my life. And, I need to think about my future, my goals beyond my retirement account, beyond the next paycheck and beyond the next weekend.

How many of you have fallen into this same rut? How many of you haven't hugged (or snowballed) a friend recently? How many of you have scheduled your day so that you don't have time to be spontaneous or to watch a sunset? How many of you have squandered your dreams? And, how many of you are going to start looking for them again?

✱

Beauty and the Beast #3

Since last time, I saw *The Return of the Jedi*, which was OK (apart from those bloody Ewoks!), and I also found time to watch *Fierce Creatures* (quite funny, several laughs) and *Fargo*, which was excellent. Besides these movies, I did attend Jean-Michel Jarre's concert in Gothenburg, and had a marvellously good time. That concert prevented me from visiting SydCon, with the Swedish Championship of Diplomacy, but I could, however, attend LinCon as usual.

At LinCon I didn't have time to play any Diplomacy, instead I competed in several RPG's. We started with two Call of Cthulhu-scenarios. In the first one we were hired to investigate a missing lumberman. After some investigations we found out that the corporation's chemist had made some experiments and the resulting monster had escaped. But, as we'd been fired by the chief of the corporation, we decided to forget everything if he gave back our work. Said and done!

The second Call scenario was much more interesting, as we played students who had become members of a Christian sect, led by a reverend, who in reality was one of Satan's 13 children. Hallelujah! We failed to solve the scenario, but that was not the purpose (it was virtually impossible)!

The next day we tried a role playing experiment, in which a theme was varied. The theme was a sniper high above, who started to shoot down innocent people, and we were police officers of different kinds who should stop him. The first time we were a S.W.A.T.-team, the last time we were school polices! No less than five different variations were played, and the result was as interesting as was expected.

After three good scenarios, we happened to participate in a truly horrible scenario: *Neotech*. Well, it could have been interesting if not the GM skilfully managed to avoid any possible dramatic potential (well, he was young enough to be my son, so what could you expect), and when we grew tired of him and let us be captured by the police, he didn't know anything else to do than stopping the session as the scenario was finished (after about 90 minutes). Yuck!

Luckily we finished off with a game of *Kelter (The Celts)*, where we played three druids and a hunter on a long journey (that was more or less the scenario), my druid had as his most offensive spell *Flower Rain*, and another had a *Gish*, according to which he wasn't allowed to harm any living being, so no combat was initiated. We succeeded in winning that tournament, the only prize we got (a small failure, but not as big as in Gothenburg).

Besides the tournaments I also had time to play the new story telling card game *Once Upon a Time* (very nice), and a game of *Settlers*. I hope to be able to attend UppCon in the fall, but before that I probably will visit Manorcon.

Otherwise, nothing new on the Western front. Rules for Energy will appear before the cows come home and the fat lady sings.

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Brumm '97

En liten spalt inför resan till ManorCon

Brunum? Jo det är smeknamnet engelsmännen har för Birmingham. När vi svenskar gjorde vår framgångsrika tripp till WDC 4/ManorCon 94 så gav jag ut några nummer av ett litet minifansin som fick namnet *Brumm*. (Detta tog sedan Björn von Knorring upp igen till ett senare tillfälle och gav ut minifansinet *Vroom...*)

Detaljerna kanske ni redan vet om, om inte kommer de här iallafall:

Konventet

Konventet hålls Birmingham University (Lake Hall) från kl 14 fredagen 18 juli till kl 14 måndagen 21 juli. Huvudturneringen är Diplomacy, där lördagspasset utgör en lagtävling om lag med exakt sju spelare där var och en spelar olika stormakter. (Lagresultatet ingår i den individuella tävlingen och läggs till resultatet från fredag och söndag. Det är dessutom diverse andra turneringar och aktiviteter, t.ex. 1830, Siedler von Catan, ElGrande, osv, men det brukar inte vara något problem att ragga folk till att spela vad man nu vill.

Konventet hålls i en studentlokal och är en stor sal, med angränsande pub. Den hålls i källaren på en studentrumsbyggnad. I våningarna över finns studentrum (som är tomma över sommaren) i vilka man sover mellan konventsdagarna. Det serveras frukost i byggnaden, och andra mål intages i pubben eller nere i stan.

Kostnaden för konventet är £12 i inträde + £21,50 per natt i logi (£40 för dubbelrum). Man måste ha ett rum om man tänker vara kvar efter midnatt på grund av brandbestämmelser.

Konstnaderna ovan behöver inte betalas i förväg men det är bra om alla som tänker åka och vill ha rum tar kontakt med mig så kan jag vidarebefodra detta till arrangörerna per e-post.

Resa dit

Jag kommer att flyga från Stockholm Skavsta (= Nyköping) till Stanstead via Ryan Air. Dessa har billiga trippar. För tur och retur (utresa onsdagen 16 juli kl 10 och tillbakaresa tisdagen 22 juli kl 07:15 [!!!]) betalade jag c:a 1400. Till

detta kommer då kostnaden att ta sig till London (45-60 minuter från Stanstead) och sedan till Birmingham (tåg 2 timmar, har jag för mig), samt att ta sig tillbaka (antagligen till Stanstead under måndagen för min del).

Jag känner inte till om det finns billighetsresor från/till andra flygplatser. Normalpris är drygt 2000 och uppåt. Alternativet för västsvenskarna är fränst färja vilket lär kosta runt 1800 och ta 24 timmar, men ett trevligt alternativ om man är några stycken.

Om ni tänker åka från Nyköping gå då till närmsta resobyrå och boka, men tänk på att biljetten måste betalas direkt och att billighetsplatserna har gått åt. 995-turema finns inga förrän tidigast i augusti (men detta kan vara ett alternativ för veckoslutstrippar). Glöm inte att ta med transport till/från Nyköping i beräkningen.

Andra aktiviteter

En del beskrivs i brevspalten. Jag föreslår att de som åker tidigare träffas vid Royal George kl 18 onsdagen 16 juli. Där hålls juli månads hobby-träff, en trevlig tillställning som jag besökt i höstas. Sedan är det säkert lämpligt med gemensam uppresan till Birmingham men detta kan vi säkert komma fram till veckoma framöver.

För egen del åker jag alltså tillbaka 22 juli (tisdagen efter konventet) men för den som vill stanna längre finns det ju en hel del att göra...

Vilka är vi då som åker?

Lagkapten: Björn von Knorring

Samband: Leif Bergman

Layout: Per Westlig

Musik: Björn Westling

PR: Elin Lindström

Supporters: Per Holmgren, Paul Nilsson, Christian Dreyer, Sigurd Eskeland, ...

Jag har ganska stort hopp till att vi blir sju stycken, men jag är inte säker på exakt vilka som ska åka. Hör av er till Leif, BvK eller mig för att få reda på de senaste detaljerna.

Som synes ovan har jag satt BvK som lagkapten. Han skulle då sköta laguttagning (inklusive dela ut vem som spelar vad - önskemål + meritförteckning © till honom) eftersom han är given i ett sjuannalag, det är inte jag om vi blir fler än sju.

*

The Trip to South America

by Michael Pargman

Part One: Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay

Planning

South America - just the name sounds exotic, and what about Brazil and Rio de Janeiro. During six weeks from December 96 to January 97 I had the pleasure and opportunity to visit Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil for the first time. We were three guys who started the planning six months in advance.

Planning a trip like this is essential, but you shouldn't overdo it, because if you're dealing with South America and the people living there everything can change - and it did. The main characters of this story are:

Michael, me the storyteller

Daniel, my younger brother

Sören, a university friend of my brother

Helen, our half sister who lived in Sweden until she was 7 years old, 10 years ago.

Myriam, Helen's mother. They live in Buenos Aires in Argentina.

Carla, a girl from Brazil who is studying in California, where Sören met her and got a standing invitation to visit her in Brazil.

Our original plan was plainly to travel through the eastern part of South America and on the way visit Helen and Myriam in Argentina, Carla in Brazil and a cousin of Sören living in Uruguay. We began by trying to get in touch with them all. That wasn't easy, and when we finally got in touch we only got standard phrases like "Of course you are welcome whenever you come" - not something to make plans of. It got better when we got a fax connection with Myriam. Air fares varied between 1.000 \$ and 1.500 \$ depending on travel agency. Everyone urged us to book quickly because a lot of people go there for Christmas. Finally we managed to book an open jaw-flight from Europe arriving in Rio de Janeiro and departing from Buenos Aires.

Two days later we got a fax from Myriam asking us to come to Argentina before Christmas instead of after. Sometimes planning can be sheer joy. We phoned our travel agency and put them to work again. They were great in the way they put up with us. It took them a couple of weeks and then they had new bookings the other way around, and at no extra charge!!

But we had to begin our journey a few days earlier than planned and go home a few days later. In the end Sören couldn't fly with us, because he was negotiating for a new job. He had to stay in Sweden two more weeks. This ticket and planning business could actually have been a story of its own. I haven't even mentioned the challenges getting South American air pass tickets, or the flights that had disappeared when we came to pick up our tickets and so on and so on...

Buenos Aires

We got into trouble as soon as we arrived in Buenos Aires, because my luggage didn't appear. I had borrowed a rucksack that could be converted to a suitcase from my brother's girlfriend. But I hadn't put my name tag on and I had difficulties describing it. I hardly remembered the colours! And we didn't know where we were going to stay. Just trying to think how to explain this in Spanish gave me a headache, but luckily the girl from KLM knew some English and the luggage wasn't too difficult to find. It just wanted to see more, and had continued to Santiago. I got it back ten hours later.



B.A. is a BIG city. More people live there than in all of Sweden. Traffic was hectic, traveling from the airport into town could give any decent driver a heart attack. Even though the main avenue had 8 lanes in each direction it didn't seem to be

enough. Their traffic manners was terrible. The lane markers seemed to be as ornament only, and usually there seemed to be at least one more line of cars than there was lanes. And you didn't have to be in an outer lane in order to turn, which made it a bit hazardous to be driving in an outer lane if you wanted to go straight.

What seems typical with these mega-cities is that they are divided in a number of districts. The districts have a clear hierarchy from rich to poor, and people usually never visit more than a few of them. Helen and Myriam lived in an upper middle-class neighbourhood and when it came to shopping, cinema etc., there really was no need to go to the city centre. The surroundings seemed to be very calm. On the main street of the district, the street was full of people of all ages all night long and there seemed to be no violence.

We relaxed, talked a lot, looked at photos, exchanged music (we had recorded Swedish music videos for a month). We met with their friends and visited different parts of the city. From their apartment (18th floor) we could see the River Plate football stadium and one night we heard a terrible roar from the outside. Since it was raining we thought it was thunder, but then we saw the light board of the stadium that someone had scored. Later that night there was a big firework at the stadium. The next day we read that River Plate had won the national championships. Football is the national game of Argentina. This really showed one night when they met Chile in a World cup qualification game. The streets were empty of people, and the bars with TV were full.

The cost of living in Argentina is almost as high as in Sweden, or rather it depends mainly on how and where you live. The rents for apartments varied a lot. Clothes were about the same price. CDs, electronics etc. were more expensive and food was a lot cheaper. Argentina is one of the major meat exporters of the world and you could see that in the stores. Meat cost between 2 and 5 \$ per kilo! A dinner at a restaurant cost 15-30 \$, but then you got a lot of food.



We had never really understood the political history of Argentina, especially the Peron era. One night we met with Helen's old piano teacher, now studying in the US. He gave us this wonderful metaphor: Think of Argentina under Peron as if the United States had consisted of 50% black people, and Louis Farrakhan had taken power and then married Whitney Houston. It sounds like a great setting for a movie, or maybe even a musical.

We visited the Swedish church and their Christmas market with handicraft, gingerbread cakes etc. We met two girls our age who were studying film at the university and then we went out with them one night and met their friends. An American in their company said there were a lot of Americans traveling around the continent, supporting themselves by teaching English. He could easily make 2.500 \$ a month in B.A.

Traveling was very expensive in Argentina. They said it was cheaper to go to neighbouring countries like Chile, Bolivia and Brazil than to travel to southern Argentina.

One day we visited a ranch in the Pampas (Argentinean prairie) where the gaucho (Argentinean cowboy) myth was created. There, I saw a map from the 1875 showing the frontier to the Indians, and the prospected frontier after the next few years of fighting. It was so strange, Argentina was just a thin stripe of land along the Atlantic coast and major parts of the area was still unknown to the Europeans, and it was only a little more than 100 years ago. But in 10-15 years more the Indians were practically wiped out and today Argentina (and Uruguay) consist almost entirely of European immigrants like Germans, Poles, Ukrainians, Italians etc. Out in the country they still live separately, marrying within their community etc.

Adventure

When in Argentina, we went on a three-day-trip to Iguazu, one of the world's largest waterfalls on the border to Brazil. When the plane came close, it turned and took a turn so we got a great view of the falls from the air. Some guided tours were included in our trip and since we wanted to do a few things on our own, we wanted to get on with it. So, only 20 minutes after we had checked in to the hotel a bus came to pick us up for a tour on the Argentinean side of the falls. We wanted to look through our plans on the bus, but just as we sat down, we arrived at the falls. That's how we found out we lived 300 metres from the entrance. The Iguazu falls are said to be one of the continents most breathtaking sights and they sure are. The falls are larger and more outspread than Niagara and between the different cataracts was the setting with greenery of the jungle, beautiful. We walked over the falls, down to the falls, into a fall (well, close by anyway and the sun was so strong our clothes dried in 15 minutes) and finally we took a boat ride that went under/into a fall. They were truly magnificent, and if you're not planning to go there yourself, you can always come by Stockholm and look at my photos.

We ended the tour with a walk out to 'La Garganta del Diablo', The Devil's Throat. A semi-circular fall that has been described as "of all sights on earth, this must come closest to the experience of sailing off the edge of the earth imagined by early European sailors, as the deafening cascade plunges to a murky destination, blurred by the rising vapour which soaks the viewer". There was a catwalk that lead to a platform right above the fall. Three times, floods had tore down the catwalk, and the last time they hadn't rebuilt it. Instead there was a small boat that took us to it. Here and there distorted metal parts of the old catwalks stuck up from the water, and you could really feel the forces of the water.

The next day we went to see the falls from the Brazilian side. That's from where you can get an overview of the whole system of falls. Unfortunately heaven had opened its gates that day and water was pouring down. We all got to wear silly plastic raincoats that barely kept our clothes dry. At the devil's throat there was a

catwalk leading out to the middle where you had falls all around you. It was like standing in the middle of a storm. I tried to take a 360 degree photo combination, but it's impossible to get the real-life experience into a couple of photos.

From the falls we continued to the Itaipu dam, the worlds largest hydroelectric plant on the border of Brazil and Paraguay. There are 18 turbines producing 12 600 MW of power. The power plant is owned jointly by the two countries, but Paraguay only needs the power of half a turbine for all its electric power, the rest is sold to Brazil. When the dam was built they destroyed Sete Quedas, a set of waterfalls said to be even more impressive than Iguazu.

The next stop was Ciudad del Este in Paraguay. It's a small dirty border town only known and visited because of everything smuggled and sold there. It has been described as "a chaos of mass consumption with 15.000 shops jammed into 20 blocks". The streets were made of mud, and with this heavy rain there was floods of mud and water streaming down the streets. You tried not to put your feet in the ankle-deep mud water, but otherwise we didn't really care where we put our feet at that point. My shoes were totally drenched, and it took them several days to dry. We walked a few blocks that were totally cramped with small shops that sold leather, electronics, clothes and the usual knick-knacks. But after passing ten shops you had really seen it all, then it just started repeating itself.

The next day we rented a taxi for the day and traveled into Argentina again. We stopped at a gem stone excavation, went to a bank to withdraw money on a credit card (you really know you're out in the bush when it takes an hour to get some money, and it cost 30 \$ to get 400 \$ — oh how we regretted that we didn't take the time to use an ATM before we left Buenos Aires), tried our sense of direction in a full size garden labyrinth, visited a zoo and ended up at the ruins of a Jesuit mission. The Jesuits were very successful in the 17th century and took on Indians and taught them different crafts. They built a number of missions in present day Argentina and Paraguay and more than 20.000 people lived there. The neighbouring settlers

couldn't compete with them and tried to persuade the Spanish crown to give them Indian labourers.

The Jesuits resisted that successfully, but in the end the Spanish felt that the Jesuits were building a state within the state and expelled them. The Jesuits had been very successful in attracting Indians, and taught them the skills of weaving, carpentry, cabinet making and designing musical instruments, unfortunately these skills were useless to them in the post-mission world.

I had copied some pages from a guide book in the library and it said something about guided tours into the jungle and it specifically mentioned a guide, Juan Manuel Correa, and said he was a very enthusiastic and competent guy, a biologist, ecologist, park-ranger etc., the book just went on to praise him. Since Helen has always been extremely interested in everything that has to do with animals this sounded like a good idea. The trouble was, the guide book was 7-8 years old and the newer books didn't say anything about him. We went into the village and tried to locate him with no luck. Then we went into a travel agency and asked. The guy there knew Juan and called him up, teasing him, saying that of course we wanted Juan as a guide and not himself since he wasn't a highly motivated and educated biologist, ecologist etc. We arranged to go into the jungle with him in the morning the day we were leaving.

We didn't know what to expect, but we were a bit surprised when a guy, about 35 years old, came with the regular bus to our hotel in low heel shoes, a small backpack and a plastic bag. And then we just walked along the road from the hotel and took a path into the bushes. We came to an opening and he told us this was the site of the old air field until 25 years ago, now there was not a sign of it. The jungle had taken over again, but the trees were no higher than 20 metres while they were 40 m in an original jungle. He was extremely observant of birds and animals. After some 500 metres he stopped and took out a pair of rubber boots from the plastic bag. I wish I had had something like that too, because we stepped right into some bog land and stopped to look at birds and butterflies before we continued into the woods. We saw a lot of birds and among them a large Tucan (the colourful bird with a giant beak). It was hot and humid and the mosquitoes

had a feast on us. We didn't get to see the Jaguars of the area, there were only 10 or 11 of them and they moved over a very large area in Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay. We had to be satisfied with giant ants (3-4 cm), termites, a squirrel, small scorpions and frogs, lizards, lots of beautiful butterflies and the track of a small crocodile (no meeting with that one). At one point we climbed down 20 m to the basin of a small waterfall. You could really feel the difference in the air as we climbed down (micro-clima). The air was much cooler and easier to breathe. At the bottom of the fall you could take a bath if you wanted, but we weren't prepared for that.

Altogether we spent 5 hours with him in the jungle, and in the end he talked a bit about himself. He said he didn't need much in life and was satisfied with his present life. He worked as a guide 2-4 times a week. The rest was spare time when he read, painted etc. He took a liking to Helen, and promised her free guiding if she came back.

Uruguay

We took a ferry across Rio de la Plata to Uruguay. We were somewhat surprised to find several signs in Swedish on the ferry. It turned out the ferry was built in Öresund (a theory of ours is that it was rented there for the Swedish winter). In Uruguay we stayed with the family of Sören's cousin. They had just moved out to their summer house in Punta del Este.

One evening we went down to the harbour to look at the million-dollar yachts that were parked there. We went to the beach every day. It was hot, but windy and the water was really cold. We spent one day in Montevideo and it was the first time we saw a major city with skyscrapers, heavy traffic etc., and only a block away the beach with people sunbathing and resting. Later we would find the same arrangements in Rio de Janeiro. Our time in Uruguay was very calm and relaxing, which we sure needed in preparation for Brazil.

((This was the first part of Michael's write-up of his trip to South America. The second and last part will appear next issue.))

PAX GERMANIA #104

subzeen of L4E #53

Rocky II (By Popular Demand) - First Round

Rk	was	Player	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	B/F	this	TOT
1	—	Pitt Crandlemire	U2	J Updike	Uruguay	understanding	undertaker	Uranus	—	74	74
2	—	Michael Pargman	U2	J Updike	Uruguay	unique	undertaker	Uranus	—	73	73
3	—	Conrad von Metzke	U2	S Undset	UK	understanding	undertaker	Uranus	—	72	72
3	—	Leif Kjetil Tviberg	U2	U Le Guin	UK	unseful	undertaker	Uranus	—	72	72
3	—	Gihan Bandaranaike	U2	U Le Guin	UK	useful	undertaker	Uranus	—	72	72
6	—	Lars Berglund	U2	L Uris	Uruguay	useful	undertaker	Uranus	—	71	71
7	—	W. Andrew York	U2	L Uris	Uganda	useful	undertaker	Uranus	—	70	70
8	—	Göran Kareststrand	U2	J Updike	UK	understanding	undertaker	UFO	—	68	68
9	—	Ulf Jiretom	U2	S Undset	Uruguay	understanding	undertaker	Uranus	—	67	67
10	—	Brent McKee	U2	J Updike	Ukraine	usefulness	undertakcr	UFO	—	65	65
11	—	Björn Westling	U2	S Undset	Ukraine	utmärkt	undertaker	UFO	—	63	63
12	—	Douglas Kent	U2	J Updike	Uruguay	unique	urologist	Uranus	—	61	61
12	—	Mark Stretch	U2	U Le Guin	Uganda	upstanding	undertaker	UFO	—	61	61
14	—	Berry Renken	U2	P Ustinov	Uganda	unusual	undertaker	Uranus	—	60	60
15	—	Brad Martin	U2	J Updike	Ukraine	unpretentious	urban planner	Uranus	—	58	58
16	—	Anders Færdén	U2	S Undset	UK	unique	univ. teacher	UFO	—	54	54
17	—	Leif Bergman	UNP	T Utby	Uganda	utmärkt	urinoartvättare	Uranus	—	22	22
	—	(Per Westling)	U2	U Eco	Ukraine	unprejudiced	usher	UFO	(—)	(47)	(47)
(—)		OTHERS							(—)	(47)	(47)
		MAXIMUM	17	6	5	4	13	12		74	
		MINIMUM	1	1	4	1	1	6		16	

① [Rock/Pop group] Almost unanimous. As only three players failed to bank on this one we got very high scores for most. U2 17, UNP and da mafia feut: Jack D and ragga muffa 1 ((*does such a group exist?*))

② [Author] Quite a good spread. Sigrid Undset was mentioned last time (in conjunction with Norway) so it might have been expected for here to be the major choice. John Update 6, Sigrid Undset 4, Ursula LeGuin 3, Leon Uris 2, Peter Ustinov/Umberto Eco/Thomas Utby 1.

③ [Contry except USA] Ukraine is the second largest country in Europe (Russia being the largest) and also an area on the Diplomacy board. Very good category as it gave an even spread. UK/Uruguay 5, Uganda/Ukraine 4.

④ [Positive attribute] The hardest one this time. useful(ness) 5, understanding 4, unique 3, utmärkt 2, upstanding/understanding/unusual/unprententious/unprejudiced 1.

⑤ [Occupation] U2-pilot? U-Boat Captain? undertaker 13, univ. teacher/urologist/urban planner/urinoartvättare/usher 1.

⑥ [Something in the air/sky/space] The U2 plane would have been an interesting entry but people went for the two big Us, two even banking on the most popular one: Uranus 12, UFO 6.

((*More comments in the letter column*))

If you forget to bank with your orders I will randomly determine which one you will bank.

A very close call in the top, but Pitt won due to a perfect score. Michael close behind.

Press [Rocky II]

Leif: As I can not win I can always come last!!!!

GM: And not receive any freebies...

Rocky II – Next round

Round two has letters V and/or W:

- ① A Car manufacturer
- ② An animal
- ③ Geographical area or region

- ④ Something connected to IT/computers
- ⑤ An author
- ⑥ What should be the L4E/PG game name for these letters?

All About Eve [HotW]– Epoch V

EPOCH V HISTORYJUPITER: *Disaster*: WeiR, GPChi.*Franks (10B) & Leader*: NGau (r: Ceur, +X@) - LRhi - CEur (2) - Alb - BalS - Dni - WSte - TurP.SATURN: *West African Kingdom (1E)*: GolC (+C#).*Vikings (9D)*: Sca - BalS (1) - NOR - Hig (1) - Ire - Alb - NOR.PLUTO: *Holy Romand Empire (10L) & Weaponry*: CEur (r:Poffl, +X) - Dni - Dan - Dal (1) - Pin (1) - NApp - SApp - BalS.VENUS: *Crusade (3B)*: Pal (1, +C#), Ara.*Chola (8L)*: EGha (r: EDec, +X) - EDec (1) - GanD - Irr (1) - Sze (1).URANUS: *Thai Kingdom (1L)*: MalP (r: Poffl, +CW).*Sung Dynasty (9D)*: Sze (r:Poffl, +X@) - Yan - GPChi - Che - S.CHI - WeiR (1) - TarB (1).MERCURY: *Seljuk Turks (12L) & Elite Troops*: TurP (r:Poffl) - PerP - Zag - EAna - HKus - WAna - Bal (+@) - TarB - UInd - MTig (+@) - Lev - LInd.NEPTUNE: *Minor Empire - Fujiwara (3E)*: Hok (+X) - Han - KorP.*Mongols (20D)*: Mon (r:Poffl) - GPChi (1) - JAP - Che - Sik - YelR - ESte - TurP -

HKus (1) - PerP - UInd - Zag - EAna - Lev - WAna - WDec (1) - EGha. Mongols fails to build any monuments.

		J	S	P	V	U	M	N	Next
Middle East	2	4	0	2	2	2	4	4	2
North Africa	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
India	3	0	3	3	6	3	3	6	3
China	3	0	6	0	3	6	3	3	3
Southern Europe	2	3	0	6	0	0	3	3	2
Northern Europe	2	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	2
South East Asia	2	0	2	2	2	2	0	2	2
Eurasia	1	2	0	1	1	0	1	2	1
North America	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
South America	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Southern Africa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Japan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Capitals	2	4	2	2	2	6	2	2	2
Cities	1	0	2	1	2	1	3	2	1
Monuments	1	10	3	2	3	4	7	5	1
Seas	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	2	1
TOTAL SCORED		31	23	23	21	26	26	33	

EPOCH VI BIDS

JUPITER: Ming 1, Ottoman 1, Portugal 1, **Mughals 0**, Timurid 0, Incas 0;
 Minor Empire: Safavids 2, Black Death 1, Swedish Kingdom 1, Migrants 1, Elite Troops 0

SATURN: **Incas & Azteks 1**, Spain 1, Portugal 1; **Migrants 1**, Weaponry 0

PLUTO: **Ottoman 8**; **Leader/disaster 5**, Minor 2, Black Death 1

VENUS: **Spain 9**; **Black Death 2**

URANUS: Spain 5, Portugal 3, Ottoman 2, Ming 1, Mughals 1, **Timurid 0**;
 Migrants 1, Safavids 1, Swedish Kingdom 1, **Weaponry 0**

MERCURY: **Portugal 1**, Ming 1, Spain 1, Mughals 1, Ottoman 1, Timurid 0; **Swedish Kingdom 2**

NEPTUNE: **Ming 6**; Minor 2, Elite Troops 0

VICTORY POINTS after EPOCH VI bids (in Victory Point order)

	Player	Scores Ep. IV	Epoch V VPs	Empire Bids	Event Bids	Ep.IV Adjust	Scores Ep. V
U	Nicklas Hjalmarsson	77	26	0	0	0	103
M	Brad Martin	57	26	-1	-2	0	80
V	Anders Færden	70	21	-9	-2	0	80
N	Henrik Andersson	45	33	-6	0	0	72
P	Michael Pargman	61	23	-8	-5	0	71
J	James Hardy	16	31	0	-2	+2	47
S	Leif-Kjetil Tviberg	21	23	-1	-1	0	42

Remarks: 1 forgot 2 of Jupiter's monuments last turn it seems.

Press and Q&A[All About Eve]:

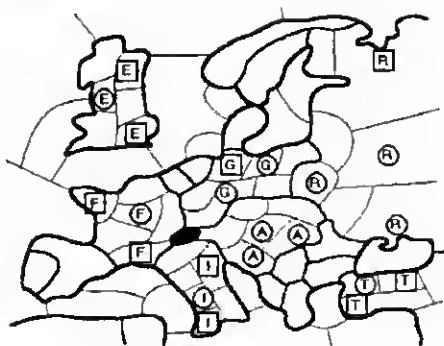
Jupiter - All: I just had it explained in Gothenburg that the battle is like in Civi; what a waste of money
 Leader was then... Come on the Saturnalians!

GM - Jupiter: Not a complete waste as it saved you two unit losses this turn.



The Hidden — Winter 1900

Austria [The Dragon]
 A Bud, A Tri, A Vie
 England [Wizard of Oz]
 F Edi, F Lon, A Lpl
 France [The Prince]
 F Bre, F Mar, A Par
 Germany [The Thinman]
 A Ber, F Kie, A Mun
 Italy [The Pirate King]
 F Nap, A Rom, A Ven
 Russia [Keyser Söze]
 A Mos, A Sev, F Stp(nc), A War
 Turkey [Jungfru Maria]
 F Ank, A Con, F Smy



GM: We will use black press as it is defined in the house rules, i.e. *power* Gvt is reserved, and also limited to 50 words. For several reasons I have lifted that limit this time, but *it will be back next round*.

Note: The game will continue in a normal fashion, with Spring 1901 being the next turn. The following turn will be Fall/Winter 1901, and so on.

The Hidden - Press (In alphabetic order)

Aus-Tur: How do I know you are not lying?

The Dragon - The Dragon: You're the only one I can trust!

The Dragon - Ger+Ita: Any army in TYR will be considered a hostility.

The Dragon - Jeltsin: I'm definitely counting on you. With the turbulence we now see in Turkey, one cannot depend on such an unstable government. Turkey is made for tourists, so I see no reason why we shouldn't go there and enjoy the countryside and coasts. I have always wanted to go to Constantinople and I suppose you want to see Ankara at night. My Italian friend have made claims on Smyrna and I see no reason why The Pirate King should not be allowed his share.

Eng-Fra: You dirty little dog...

Eng-Ger: I am not interested in Bel – it is yours.

Eng-Rus: Scandinavia is mine, mine, all mine. Moaahhh.

Fra-Eng: Bel is mine, keep out!

Fra Gvt - Eng: If you built a fleet in Liverpool then blood will flow, otherwise we can talk.

Fra-Ger: Agreed!

Fra Gvt - Ger: France is at a tremendous disadvantage in this "Winter 1900" variant, as both England and Italy may very well start with more fleets than usual which could all head my

way! So be assured of my most peaceful intentions toward you, regardless of what you may have said in the press this time. I won't be moving to Burgundy.

Fra Gvt - Ita: No problem at all with me if you built Fleet Rome and move to TYS, but can we agree upon leaving PIE, GOL, WMS and NAF empty at all times?

Fra-Rus: An alliance sounds good to me. Please give me some proposals to consider.

Fra Gvt - Rus: Norway of course belongs to you!

Fra-Ita: War it is.

Ger-Ita: Cooperate?

Keyser Söze: This is the only press from Russia. All other press bylines are faked.

The king of all Russians: Who am I to complain?

An observer: The Prince seems to be a flat person who doesn't want to quarrel with anyone, which is of course nonsense. He wants to rule the world as much as any of us, so do not listen to him; crush him, we cannot afford having such uncertain player among us.

Tur-Aus: Support me to Lon, please. I am VERY friendly.

Metropolis

Fictionary Dictionary — Round 1

Round One: hickwall

1. a breed of North American guinea-fowl, recognisable by its distinct black chest plumage
2. a fence, usually of stone
3. the outer covering of a seed pod
4. a place such as a bench where people gather to collect gossip from each other
5. a river dam or obstruction caused by an excess of debris
6. the side of the church where the poor people were placed
7. a stonewall built by country bumpkins
8. a thin partition wall made out of hickory wood that cabinet makers put in large wardrobes, sideboards and bookcases for consistency and quality during the 18th and the 19th century
9. a type of levee
10. a wall or fence that British landlords used to place around their properties to protect them from intrusion by peasants
11. a wooden frame structure used for the storage of animal feed
12. a woodpecker, especially the small spotted woodpecker

The next word to be defined is: **hafiz**

Press: None.

GM: For next round select what you think is the correct explanation for round One and then give an explanation for the word of the next word. Anyone can join at any time – just send in a vote and an explanation for the next word, i.e. you do not have to have sent in an explanation for the Round One word to compete.

Star Trek: The Cage

GOPS - Round One

1st Point card: Seven

Lars plays 10
Michael plays 8
Pitt plays 8

2nd Point card: Five

Lars plays Ace
Michael plays Ace
Pitt plays 4

Player	Score	Remaining bidding cards
Lars Berglund	7	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, J, Q, K
Michael Pargman	0	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, T, J, Q, K
Pitt Crandlemire	5	A, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, T, J, Q, K

For round One the point cards at stake are:

3. Three

4. Eight

Remaining point cards:

A, 2, 4, 6, 9, T, J, Q, K.

El Gordo 1997

Since last time the following categories were resolved:

1. Eurovision Song Contest: *UK*. Not a surprise when you heard the others.

3. Stanley Cup: Detroit beat Colorado with 4-2 in matches in the semifinal, and had after that no problem to win the final (Philadelphia, 4-0). Detroit run out of luck after the final, it seems...

4. Winner Premiere League: *Manchester United*. With Cantona quitting football United was maybe loosing more than they expected.

12. Prime Minister UK: Although not July 1st yet I am sure the newly elected *Tony Blair* will still be there. A much needed fresh wind in the UK politics.

So, Michael Pargman is still in the lead, although Pitt did come strongly this time, almost passing.

	Per Westling	Lars Berglund	Björn Westling	Mark Stretch	Michael Pargman
1.	(Germany) 0.00	(Belgium) 0.00	(UK) 5.00	(Eire) 0.00	(France) 0.00
2.	Europe	Europe	Africa	North America	Europe
3.	(Colorado) 0.00	(Colorado) 0.00	(Colorado) 0.00	(Chicago) 0.00	(Colorado) 0.00
4.	(Manchester) 3.33	(Liverpool) 0.00	(Newcastle) 0.00	(Newcastle) 0.00	(Liverpool) 0.00
5.	Norway	Norway	Norway	Germany	Norway
6.	Schumacher	Villeneuve	Villeneuve	Schumacher	Villeneuve
7.	Pete Sampras	Pete Sampras	Pete Sampras	Pete Sampras	Pete Sampras
11.	10	8	9	10	7
12.	(Tony Blair) 2.00	(John Major) 0.0	(Tony Blair) 2.00	(John Major) 0.0	(John Major) 0.0
13.	Aftonbladet	Aftonbladet	Expressen	Aftonbladet	Aftonbladet
17.	Martina Hingis	Steffi Graf	Monica Seles	Steffi Graf	Steffi Graf
19.	Ferrari	Ferrari	Williams	Ferrari	Williams
20.	Sweden	Sweden	Finland	Sweden	Sweden
21.	Cape Town	Rome	Rome	Cape Town	Rome
Bf.	3.75	3.75	3.75	0.00	13.75
Σ	9.08	3.75	10.75	0.00	13.75

	Ulf Jiretorn	Leif Kjetil Tviberg	Leif Bergman	Brent McKee	Pitt Crandlemire
1	(France) 0.00	(UK) 5.00	(Eire) 0.00	(Eire) 0.00	(Eire) 0.00
2	Europe	North America	Europe	Asia	North America
3	(NY Islanders) 0.00	(NY Rangers) 0.00	(Toronto) 0.00	(Colorado) 0.0	(Detroit RW) 10
4.	(Manchester) 3.33	(Newcastle) 0.00	(Arsenal) 0.00	(Liverpool) 0.0	(Manchester) 3.33
5.	Sweden	Norway	Denmark	—	Norway
6.	Senna!	Schumacher	Schumacher	Villeneuve	Villeneuve
7.	Boris Becker	Andre Agassi	Boris Becker	Sampras	Sampras
11.	8	6	9	9	10
12.	(Tony Blair) 2.00	(Tony Blair) 2.00	(John Major) 0.0	(Tony Blair) 2.0	(John Major) 0.0
13.	Aftonbladet	Aftonbladet	Aftonbladet	Aftonbladet	Aftonbladet
17.	Steffi Graf	Steffi Graf	Steffi Graf	Steffi Graf	Steffi Graf
19.	Lotus	Ferrari	Williams	Williams	Williams
20.	Sweden	Sweden	Sweden	Finland	Sweden
21.	Stockholm	—	Cape Town	Rome	Athens
Bf.	1.50	0.00	1.50	10.00	0.00
Σ	6.83	7.00	1.50	12.00	13.33

James Joyce's Women [1389 I] - Round Six

- Run one:** 1st BeDLAM 16 (31) -5 FUER
2nd FUER 9 (34) -5 Be, -2 M
3rd MULCRC 5 (35) -4 Be, -4 F
- Run two:** 1st FUER 16 (11) -2 Be, -4 BO
2nd BeDLAM 9 (11) -2 BO, -3 F
3rd BOLLOCKS 5 (19)
- Run three:** 1st MULCRC 16 (8)
2nd BeDLAM 9 (10) -7 MULCRC
3rd BOLLOCKS 5 (8) -6 M, -1 Be
- Run four:** 1st MULCRC 20 (28)
2nd BeDLAM 10 (32) -9 MULC.
- Run five:** 1st FUER 20 (20) -6 BOLLOCKS
2nd BOLLOCKS 10 (29) -4 FUER
- Run six:** 1st FUER 20 (20) -3 BeDLAM
2nd BOLLOCKS 10 (23) -5F, -3Be

Builds:

MULCRC [Michael Pargman, Green]
(Cork [Jump, -1 BeDLAM] J32) - G34 - Bantry:
(H47) - H45 - Ballymena.

BeDLAM [W Andrew York, Blue]
(J32) - G34 - Bantry (rest too expensive to do)
FUER [Leif Kjetil Tviberg, Red]
(B66) - Clonmel; (E61) - G62 - H61 - 162 [-1 to
each other]; (Limerick) - H25 - H26 - G27 [-3
BOLLOCKS].

BOLLOCKS [James Hardy, Yellow]
(G51) - Dundalk; (G63) - H63 [-1 M, -1 Be];
(C59)-A60; (N17) - J19. [-1 MULC, -1 FUER]

JUMPS:

BeDLAM: None

FUER: BeDLAM

BOLLOCKS: None

MULC RC: BOLLOCKS, FUER, BeDLAM

cmp	bal	cities	track	racess	rentals	bal
MULCRC	92	-3	-7	41	16=	139
BOLLOCKS	64		-10	30	-9=	75
FUER	52		-15	65	-1=	101
BeDLAM	23	+3	-2	44	-6=	62

Races for round 8:

7. 15 Ballymena - 42 Killarney
8. 11 (One of three) - 61 Dundalk
9. 25 Enniskillen - 52 Kilkenny
10. 22 Coleraine - 63 Wicklow
11. 35 Athlone - 51 Clonmel
12. 36 Mullingar - 43 Bantry

Note: Enter up to 4 races. Build up to 9 points of track (excluding payment to rivals). MULCRC got +3 from cities this round, but as it got 6 to much last time (as Wicklow was already adjoined) I deducted 3 instead.

Press [James Joyce's Women]:

GM: A proposal for a rule change. I would like to charge frog jumpers one for their jump. This will remove some of the temporal advantage frog jumps have without much weakening it. I would just like to hear your views about this for future games, it will not be used in this game.

GM: We had had no Irish jokes so far. Here comes one:

An Irishman enter the pearly gates of heaven. He approaches St Peter who is standing at the gate. Peter looks up and asks for his name.

The man replies, "I'm Kevin O'Conlan".

Peter peruses his ledger of names and events. "O'Conlan, O'Conlan," he muses. He looks up and says, "Kevin O'Conlan of IRA?!"

- Yeh.

- And you blew up a pub in London?

- Yep.

- ... and you destroyed a munitions transport in Northumberland and blew up a bus in Belfast?

- Yeah. That's me handiwork, alright.

- Well, there's just no way I can let you in here.

- Let me in!? I came to tell you ye got ten minutes to get out!

Gandhi [1353IN] - Round Eleven

- Run 26:** 1st ARC 30 -2 HRTI
- Run 29:** 1st Tvico 20 (23)
2nd ARC 10 (29)
- Run 30:** 1st Tvico 16 (7) -3 Tvico

- 2nd Hi-Mom 9 (8) -4 ARC
3rd ARC 5 (7) -4 ARC
- Run 31:** 1st HRTI 20 (29) -2 ARC
2nd Hi-Mom 10 (38) -3 ARC

- Run 32:** 1st Hi-Mom 20 (29) -4 HRTI
2nd Tvico 10 (55) -2 HRTI
- Run 33:** 1/2 Hi-Mom 12½ (25)
1/2 Tvico 12½ (21)
3rd ARC 5 (22) -2 Hi-Mom
- Run 34:** None!
- Run 35:** 1st ARC 30 -6 HRTI, -5 Hi-Mom

Press:

ARC: I just wonder, since both HRTI and Tvico did NMR, how do you do when someone NMRs, which races to enter etc? It is especially interesting to know how you do decide when it comes to joint runs. What if several companies propose joint runs with a company that NMRs?

GM: In this case I used an "auto pilot", entering races where the company was sure to make a profit and nothing else. For joint runs I used the same criteria, and would have used a die if there were two proposals both fulfilling the criteria. HRTI NMR'd again, BTW, and might do so the last turn as well, giving both Tvico and Hi-Mom a chance of passing HRTI. This NMR method is not a good one, but this game has been disrupted too much as it is.

Last Emperor [1388 CH] – Round Eight

- Run one:** None!
- Run two:** None!
- Run three:** 1st KLT 30 -6 OMR
- Run four:** 1st OMR 30 -1 KLT
- Run five:** 1st MaTS 30
- Run six:** 1st MAO 20 (22) -9 RR
2nd RR 10 (22)
- Run seven:** 1st MAO 20 (31)
2nd OMR 10 (31) -6 MAO, -1 MaTS

Builds:

KLT [Micael Pargman, Green]

(Kweiyang) - L5 - Kuming - H1

MaTS [W Andrew York, Purple]

(Lanchow) - G41; (Foochow) - N30 - M31 - L30 - L29 [-1 KLT], (Teihtsin) - P62 - S64 [-1 RR]

RR [Brad Martin, Red]

(P47) - O47 - N47 - Yinchuan; (S53) - W51;

(Wuhan) - U20 [Stop: Yangtse Kiang to pass]

MAO [Leif Kjetil Tviberg, Black]

(Z71) - Z73 - Z74, (Chengtu) - T3 - T1 - S1;

(U58) - U55

OMR [Mark Stretch, Yellow]

(A66) - A69 - Y30 [-3 KLT]; (O28) - N27 - L28 [-1 KLT]

cmp	bal	cities	track	races	rentals	bal
ARC	292			80	- 5=	367
HRTI	238			20	+12=	270
HI-MOM	211			51½	- 2=	260½
TVICO	181			58½	- 5=	234½
CRC&T	OUT				=	

Races for last round (12):

34. 65 Madurai - 22 Bombay (Free run)
36. S1 Pakistan - 51 Raipur
37. S5 Bangladesh - 35 Lucknow
38. 56 Madras - 64 Calicut
39. 32 Jabalpur - 43 Calcutta
40. 24 Pune - 16 Jaipur
41. 15 Bareilly - 62 Hubbli
42. 26 Jodhpur - 41 Patna

Note: Enter up to 4 races + 34 if you wish.

Races unentered after round 12 will be deleted.

Press [Last Emperor]:

RR - KLT: Joint-runs for #2 and #3?

GM: Still very open. Should be several joint runs next round.

Races for round 9:

1. S5 North Korea - 41 Shanghai (Free run)
2. S3 Mongolia - 54 Kuming (Free run)
8. S1 Vietnam - 25 Suchow
9. S2 WesternChina - 36 Sian
10. 16 Beijing - 53 Kweiyang
11. 11 Luta - 65 Hongkong
12. 23 Tsingtag - 46 Nanchang
13. 33 Paotow - 43 Hangchow
14. 51 Chengtu - 64 Amoy

cmp	bal	cities	track	races	rentals	bal
KLT	65	+6	-5	30	-5=	91
MaTS	65		-12	30	+1=	84
RR	49	+6	-8	10	+9=	66
MAO	40		-10	40	-3=	67
OMR	25		-14	40	-2=	49

Notes: Enter up to 4 races (+ the two free ones)

Build up to 9 points of track (excluding payments to rivals).

Ben-Hur [Faith&Sword] - "Round Six: Years 660-669"**Toleration edicts:** Islam tolerate O and H. Nobody else has toleration.**Holy Wars:** None.**Religious orders****Muslims [I]:** Jean-Yves Priou

Qualif India ☉ Z	2 Sahara ☉ U
4 Drangiane ☉ Z ☙	5 Persia c Z ☙☙☙☙☙
4 India c Z [RL] ☙☙☙	1 Tibetsi c J ☙

Pelegianists [L]: Thomas

1 Friesland x	1 Norway x ☙
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Shamanists [S]: Brad Martin

Sorcerer Carpathians x

1 BalticCountries - Mésia c O [fails]

11 Carpathians x	1 Mésia c O ☙
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Donatists [D]: Brad

1 Mauritania x

Monophysists [H]: Peter Lund

Patriarch Média ☉ Z

4 Palestine ☉ J » Nefoud ☉ I

2 Tibetsi ☉ J » off the map ☙

3 Cyrenaica ☉ I	11 Africa ☉ R ☙☙☙☙☙
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Orthodox [O]: Peter

5 Iberia ☉ Z	1 Colcis x
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6 Latium c R ☙☙☙☙☙☙☙

Catholics [R]: Leif-Kjetil Tviberg

Pope Latium Benevent ☉ O

5 Africa c H ☙☙☙☙☙☙☙

11 Latium ☉ O ☙☙☙☙☙☙☙

Nestorianists [N]: Leif-Kjetil

2 Tarim x

Mazedists [Z]: John G Robillard**Armagus s A Bos** [only in religious center]

2 India c N ☙☙	3 Média c H [RL]
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6 Mésopotamia x	2 Caucasus x
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4 Persoa c I ☙☙☙☙☙	1 Ural ☉ U
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Pagans [P]: Ingvar Gräns

Son of Wotan Russia x

2 Norway ☉ L	2 Sweden x
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2 Finland x	5 Podolia x ☙
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3 Pomcrania x	5 Poland ☉ S
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Military orders**Arabs (4 national sc, 0 occ sc):** Jean-Yves

A Nefoud S BYZ A Osrhoène – Mésopotamia

A Arabia S A Yemen – Oman

A Yemen = Oman

F Indian Ocean : India (2/3 Z)**Avars (4, 0):** Brad

A Baltic Countries – Russia

A Pannonia = Poland

F Ukraine S A Baltic – Russia

A Podolia s A Baltic – Russia (r: Carpath.)**Byzantines (4, 6):** Peter

A Greece = Mésia

F Black Sea : Bosphorus (2/3 Z)

F Sinai = Cyprus Sea

A Palestine H

A Egypt = Cyrenaica

A Osrhoène : Mésopotamia (3/3 Z)

A Arménie S A Osrhoène – Mésopotamia

Franks (5, 2): Leif Kjetil

Same orders as last time (except F Aquitania)!

F Auitania = Gulf of Gascony

A Vencia : Austrasia**A Lombardia : Austrasia**

A Benevent, F GoL, F OccMed, A Baetica H.

Persians (4, 1): John**A Bosphorus s AVAR A Baltic – Russia**

F Arachosia = India

A Mésopotamia H

F Persie Gulf S A Mésopotamia H

A Média S A Mésopotamia H

Vikings (6, 0): Ingvar

A Pomérania = Baltic Countries

F Volga S A Pomérania – Baltic Countries

F Russia s A Pom. – Baltic Countr. (r: Caucase)

A Poland = Podolia

F Denmark H

F Saxony = Friesland

Explanations:

- ☉ Successfull conversion
- c Failed conversion
- x Priest hold (without conversion)
- ☙ 1 killed priest
- » Exodus of Jews
- = Successfull military attack/move
- : Failed military attack/move
- S/s Successfull/Failed support
- H/h Successfull/Failed hold
- r-X Retreat to X

Religious schisms: The northern part of the Shamanist religion gets isolated in the Baltic Countries. This upsets the people there so much that they start a new religion, called the **Inoclasts** (letter: Y). This minor religion is controlled by Ingvar.

Religion	R	P	S	I	Z	O	H	U	A	D	L	M	N	Y	J
Last total	34	37	21	28	30	22	34	10		2	4		4	0	8
Conversions	+1	+2	-4	+1	-3	-1	+5	-2	+0	+0	-1	+0	+0	+3	-1
New Total	35	39	17	29	27	21	39	8		2	3		4	3	7
Priests: Before	16	19	13	16	18	12	20		0	1	2	0	2	0	
Dead priests	10	1	1	10	6	7	5		0	0	1	0	0	0	
New priests	+7	+7	-1	+5	+5	+4	+7		0	0	+1	0	0	+1	
Priests: After	13	25	11	11	17	9	22		0	1	2	0	2	1	

Remaining Holy Wars: I=3, S=2, HO=3+1, R=3, Z=3, P=2

Supply center Status: (bold: Nationalized)

Africa	BYZ	Hedjaz	ARA
Aquitania	FRA	India	PER
Arménie	BYZ	Latium	FRA
Asir	ARA	Lombardia	FRA
Baltic C.	*VIK*	Mauritania	FRA
Bosphorus	*PER*	Mesopot.	PER
Britannia	VIK	Neustria	FRA
Burgondy	FRA	Norway	VIK
Carpath.	AVA	Palestine	BYZ
Castille	FRA	Pannonia	AVA
Cilicia	BYZ	Persia	PER
Dacia	AVA	Russia	*AVA*
Denmark	VIK	Saxony	VIK
Drangiane	PER	Sogdiane	PER
Egypt	BYZ	Sweden	VIK
Ethiopia	ARA	Thracia	BYZ
Greece	BYZ	Yemen	ARA

Nationalization:

Palistine was nationalized.

Press:

Pagans--All: Odin has ordered me to write to you more often. I will obey, of course. Hanging from a tree in Uppsala is not that nice.

Vikings--Frank: Sorry about Friesland intrusion. Will retreat when menace destroyed.

Vikings--Arabs: No offence, but you broke the deal your predecessor made.

Adjustment:

Arabs: 4 centers (4, 0)

No change

Avars: 4 centers (2, 2)

No change

Byzantines: 7 centers (5, 2)

No change

Franks: 7 centers (6, 1)

No change

Persians: 5 centers + 1 (4, 2)

No build received. One short.

Vikings: 6 centers (5, 1)

No change

Remarks by GM:

Next ZAT is for #50. With Leif-Kjetil getting an online connection everyone should be available for negotiations.

Remainder of phases next turn:

2. Byzan official religion, Ordinations, Toleration, Holy Wars

3. Movement of the Priests and/or the Leaders

4. Martyrs of the Priests

5. Conversions

6. Exodus of the Jews

7. Military movement/conflict

8. Retreats

SDR 1997									
Plac	Namn	Poäng	För-VM (14 delt)	VM GothCon (113 delt)	SM SydCon (55 delt)	LinCon (46 delt)			
1	Per Danngärde	26	3	11	2	10			
2	Cyrille Sevin (Fra)	25		25					
3	Toby Harris (Eng)	22		14	6				
3	Leif Bergman	22	2		20				
5	Roger Edblom	21		21					
6	Borger Borgersen (Nor)	17		17					
6	Henrik Andersson	17			10	7			
6	Tomas Larsson	16			16				
9	Sid-Ahmed Sedjari (Fra)	13		13					
10	Thibault Constans (Fra)	12		12					
10	Anders Dessmark	12			12				
12	Björn von Knorring	11			11				
13	Andreas Lytter	10		10					
14	Jean-Louis Delattre (Bel)	9		9					
14	Karl Stengård	9			9				
14	Mattias Jerrewing	9	1	3	1	4			
17	Edi Birsan (USA)	6		6					
16	John Robillard	7		7					
16	Paul Nilsson	7			7				
20	James Hardy (Eng)	6		6					
20	Jörgen Nilsson	6			6				
22	Gihan Bandaranaike (Eng)	5		5					
22	Håkan Schöld	5			5				
22	Per Norman	5				5			
25	Torn Korbin (USA)	4		4					
25	Christian Dreyer	4			4				
27	Elin Lindström	3			3				
27	Aron Lundh	3				3			
29	Jyrki Castrén (Fin)	2		2					
29	Per Westling	2				2			
31	Nicklas Hjalmarsson	1		1					
31	Thomas Franke (Tys)	1		1					
31	Joel Grönberg	1				1			

Här är den aktuella ställningen i Svenska Diplomacyrallyt 1997 efter turneringen på LinCon.

Kommande konvent med SDR deltävling

Stockon 31 Jul-3 Aug i Stockholm

Kontakt: Karl Stengård (08-774 91 13)

Frågor, anmälningar av konvent eller annat till:

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Star Maiden ID2:3/NDW (Vår 1906)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Ulf Jiretorn, \$0)

A(Belgium) - Holland; A(Bohemia) - Silesia;
 A(Budapest) - Galicia; A(Burgundy) - Gascony;
 A(Denmark) - Kiel; A(Munich) - Burgundy;
 A(Norway) Stands; A(Piedmont) - Marseilles;
 A(Venice) - Piedmont; A(St. Petersburg)
 Stands; A(Sweden) Stands; A(Tyrolia) - Munich;
 A(Vienna) - Tyrolia; F(Ionian Sea) - Tunis;
 F(North Africa) - Mid Atlantic Ocean; F(North
Atlantic Ocean) - Liverpool; F(Trieste) - Adriatic
 Sea; F(Western Mediterranean Sea) - Spain sc

ENGLAND (Leif Kjetil Tviberg, \$16)

A(Liverpool) - York; F(Clyde) - Liverpool

GERMANY (Österrikiskt)

F(Holland) - North Sea; F(Baltic Sea) - Denmark



FRANCE (Österrikiskt)

A(Brest) s A(Paris) - Picardy; A(Paris) - Picardy;
 A(Picardy) - Belgium; A(Portugal) Stands;
 F(Edinburgh) - Clyde; F(Mid Atlantic Ocean) -
 Irish Sea; F(Marseilles) - Gulf of Lyons

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= New entry or Change of address